

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 485

By Massey

A RESOLUTION to honor Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should specially recognize those exemplary clubs and organizations that are composed of stalwart citizens who are dedicated to improving the quality of life for the youth in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable organization that evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all its endeavors is Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, which is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1943 by Laurie F. Pratt, the first Boys Club opened at 312 West Vine Avenue in Knoxville. In 1973, the Boys Club expanded to the South Knoxville Community Center to form the Girls Club; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, the two clubs merged to form the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Knoxville. Further expansion continued into Loudon County in 1999, Blount County in 2003, and Anderson County in 2005; and

WHEREAS, now known as Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, this inspiring organization has served more than 8,300 youth annually across four counties and fifteen clubs; and

WHEREAS, during its seventy-five-year existence, the organization has been led by a host of superb individuals, including Hal C. Stephens, the first executive director; John D. Lee, the second executive director; Lisa T. Hurst, the third president and CEO; and Bart McFadden, the current president and CEO; and

WHEREAS, the mission of Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley is "To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens," and for seventy-five years, its members have done so with passion, dedication, and excellence; and

WHEREAS, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the Volunteer State, and it is appropriate that it should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor Boys & Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley on its seventy-fifth anniversary and applaud its members, both past and present, on their contributions to their communities and the youth of the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.